

HOUSE No. 1423

By Ms. Forry of Boston (by request), petition of Thomas M. Menino and others for legislation to restrict the sale of video games with violent content to minors. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Thomas M. Menino	Elizabeth A. Malia
Linda Dorcena Forry	Kay Khan
Michael F. Rush	Jeffrey Sánchez
Gloria L. Fox	Benjamin Swan
Anthony Petruccelli	William Lantigua
Steven A. Tolman	Matthew C. Patrick
Kevin G. Honan	Christine E. Canavan
John A. Hart, Jr.	Jennifer M. Callahan
Willie Mae Allen	Stephen Stat Smith
Marie P. St. Fleur	Denise Provost
Michael E. Festa	

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT TO RESTRICT THE SALE OF VIDEO GAMES WIH VIOLENT CONTENT TO MINORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31 of Chapter 272 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 deleting the definition "Harmful to Minors" inserting the following
4 new definition:—

5 "Harmful to minors", matter is harmful to minors if it is obscene
6 or, if taken as a whole, it (1) describes or represents nudity, sexual
7 conduct or sexual excitement, so as to appeal predominantly to the
8 prurient interest of minors; (2) depicts violence in a manner patently
9 offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community, so as to
10 appeal predominantly to the morbid interest in violence of minors;
11 (3) is patently contrary to prevailing standards of adults in the
12 county where the offense was committed as to suitable material for
13 such minors; and (4) lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scien-
14 tific value for minors."

1 SECTION 2. Said Section 31 of Chapter 272, as so appearing, is
2 hereby further amended by inserting in the definition of "Visual
3 Material" after the word "videotape", the following:— "interactive
4 media,".